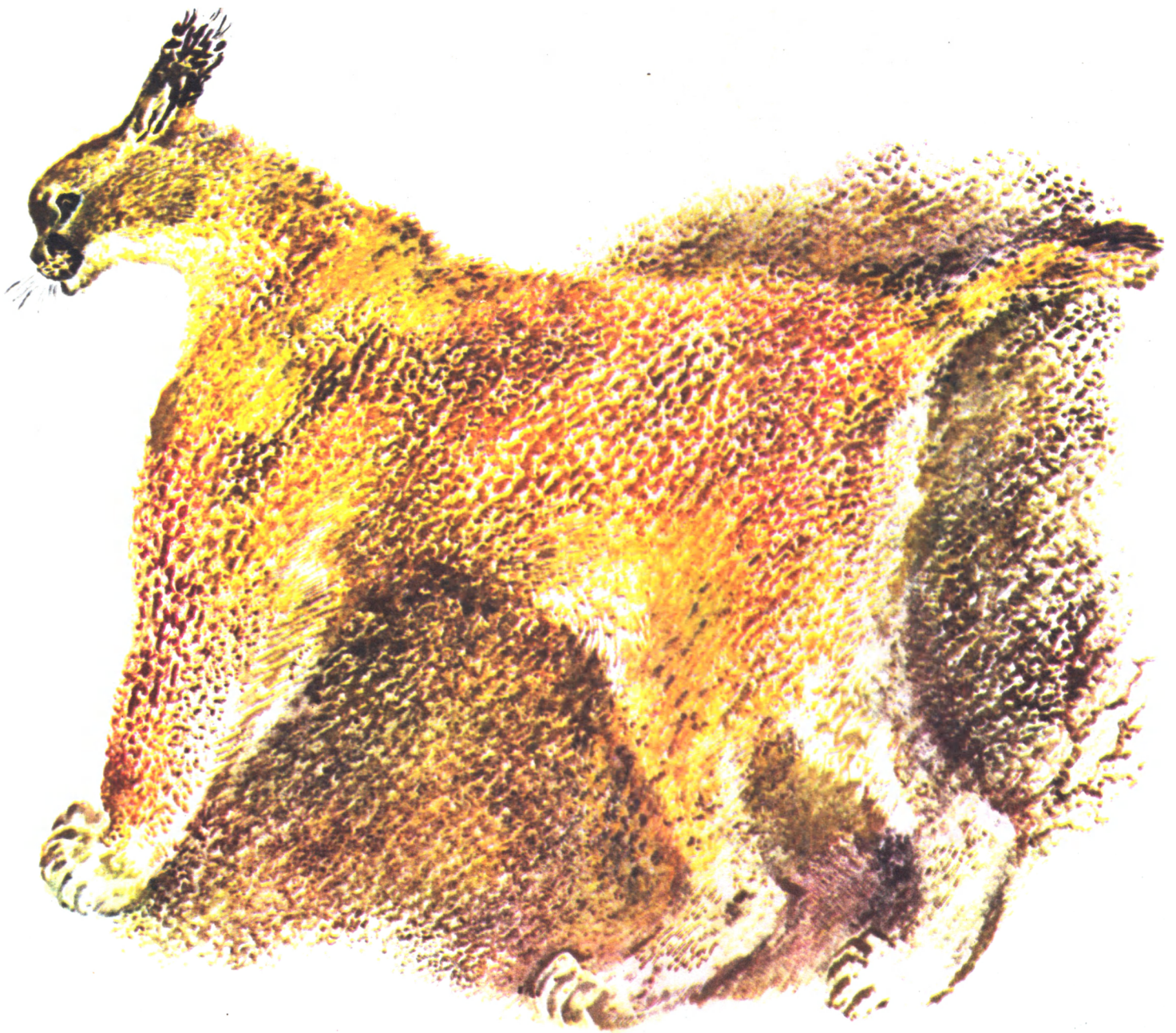


I. Akimushkin



RARE ANIMALS



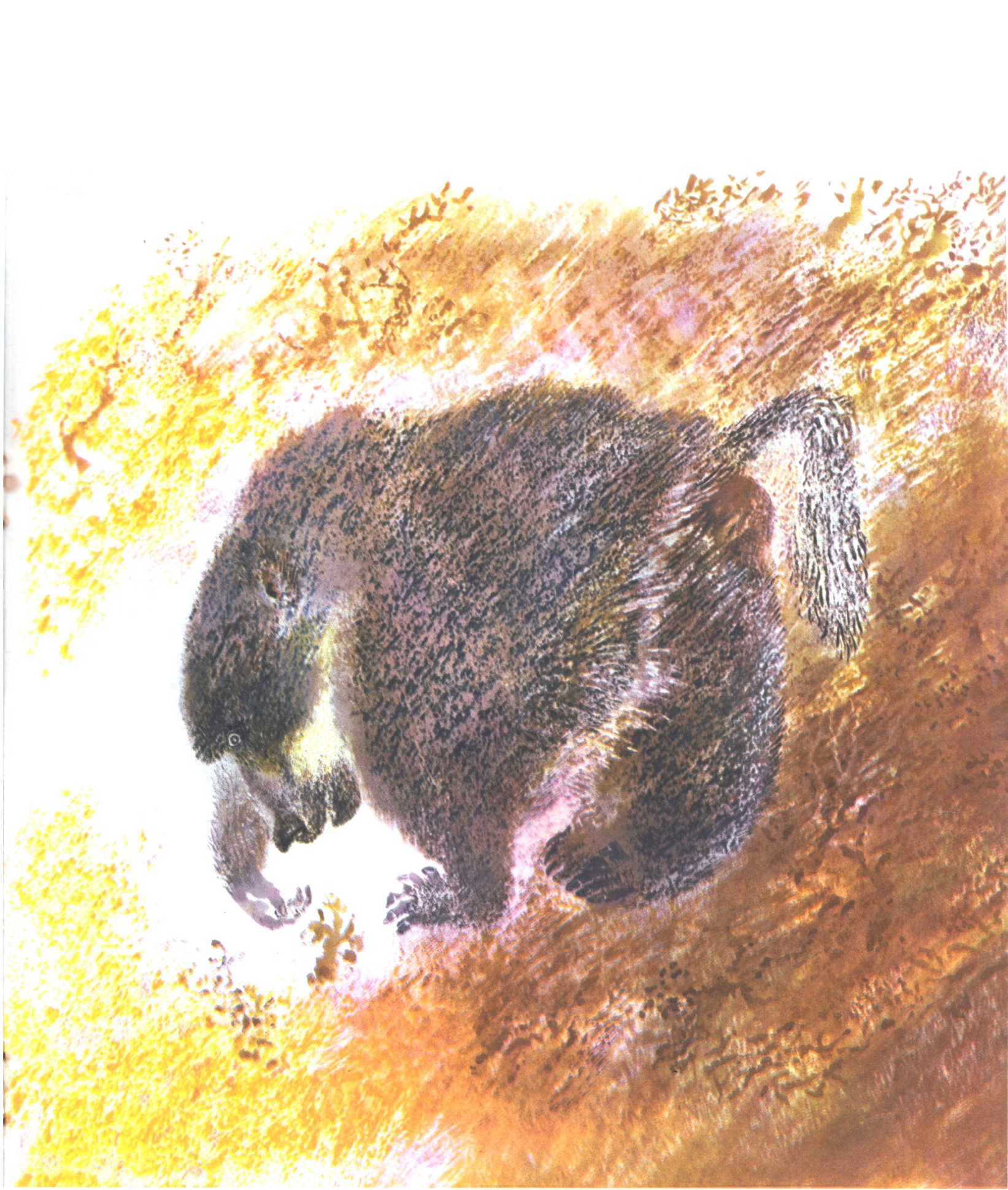


This is a CARACAL, a DESERT LYNX. Its coat is a spotless yellow colour like the sand in the desert where it lives. When the caracal goes hunting it hides motionless in wait and you won't see it on the desert sand.



MARMOSETS live in tropical Africa. They climb trees and eat fruit and young shoots.

The next picture is of a **BABOON**. Baboons have silver manes. They live on rocky hills in East Africa. They collect roots on the ground and catch beetles and lizards. Sometimes baboons make destructive raids on fruit gardens and fields.





You see what long legs this wild cat has. It is called a **CHEETAH**. It runs faster than any other animal and can even overtake an antelope. It speeds along like a hurricane at 75 mph!

On the right you can see a **SNOW LEOPARD**. It lives high up in the mountains where there is snow and ice all the year round. But the leopard has a long fluffy coat to protect it from the cold.





This is a BLUE ANTELOPE GNU. It lives in Africa. It is bearded and its mane and tail are like a horse's.

Now look at the other picture. This is an ELK. We have many elks in the Soviet Union. They are also found in the woods of Europe and North America.

Elks are easily tamed.

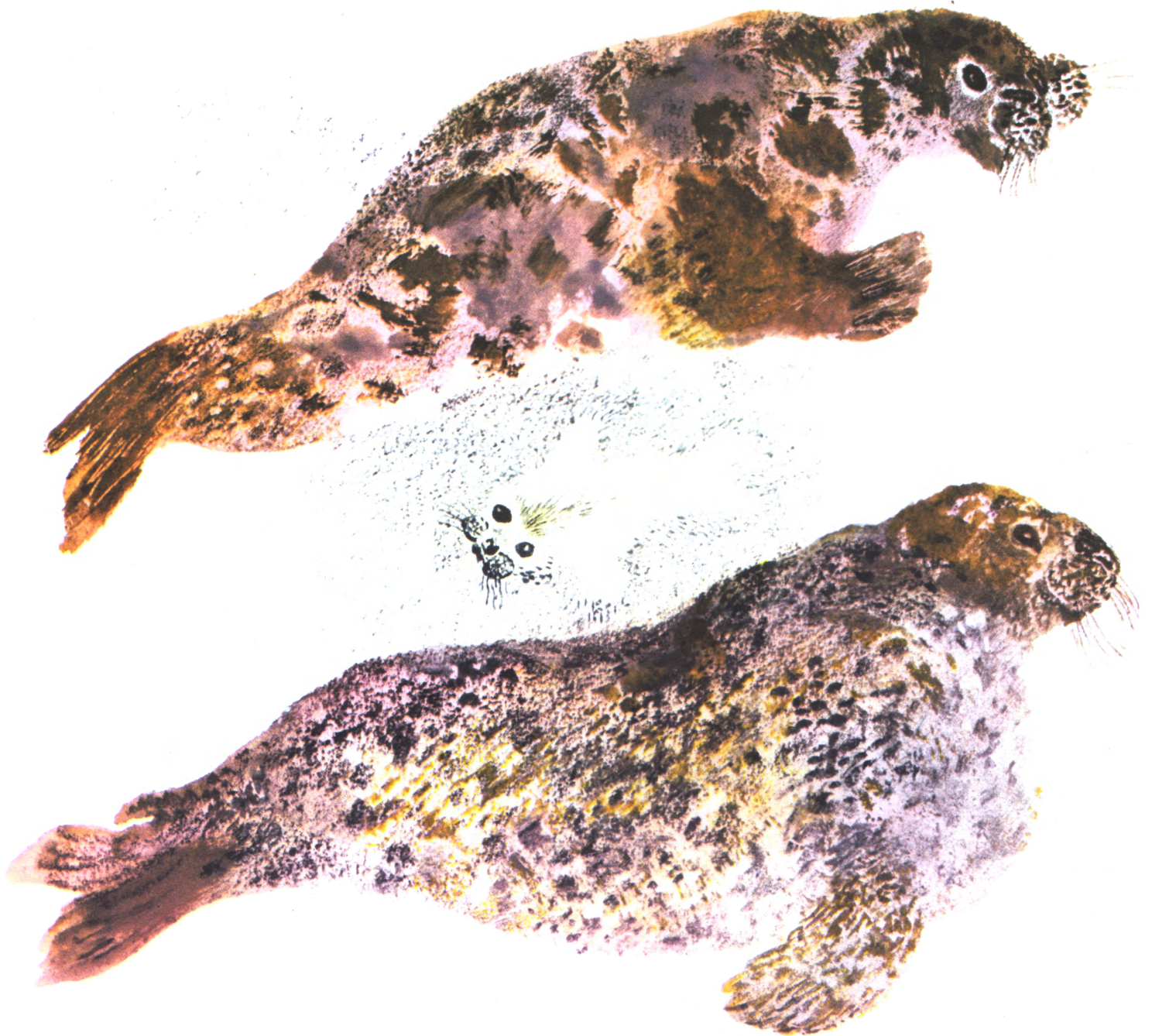




Those large wild bulls—the BISONS and the AUROCHS—are very alike. Aurochs lived in woods until recently. Now they are only found in game parks where they are protected.

Bisons come from North America where they roam in enormous herds. There are much fewer of them nowadays. They also live in game reserves.

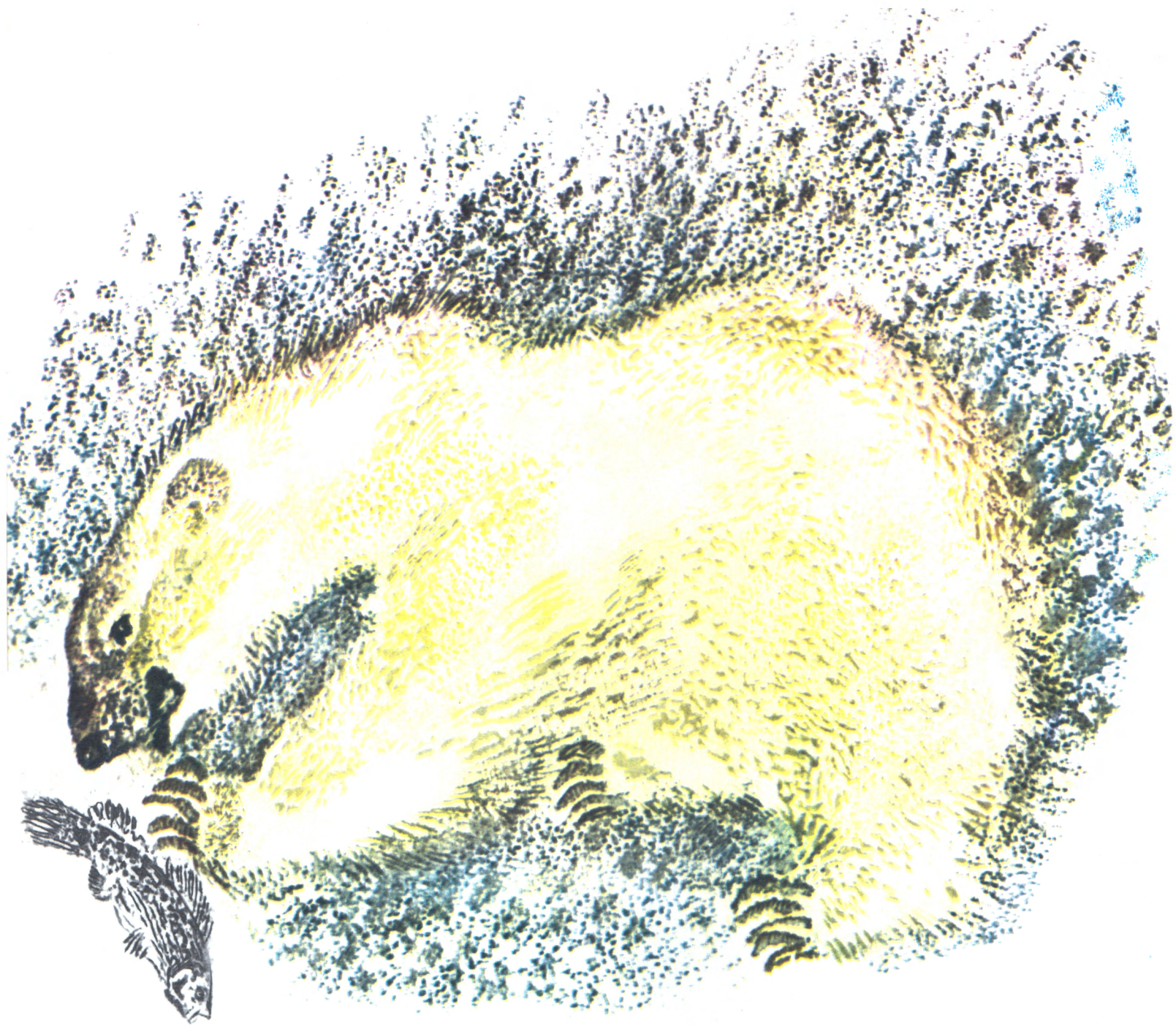




Do you know that SEALS are related to predatory animals? They live in the Arctic Ocean. They catch fish. They are different colours: black, brown and speckled, but almost all their calves are snow-white. In a few days' time the young white seals will begin to shed their coats and turn a darker colour.

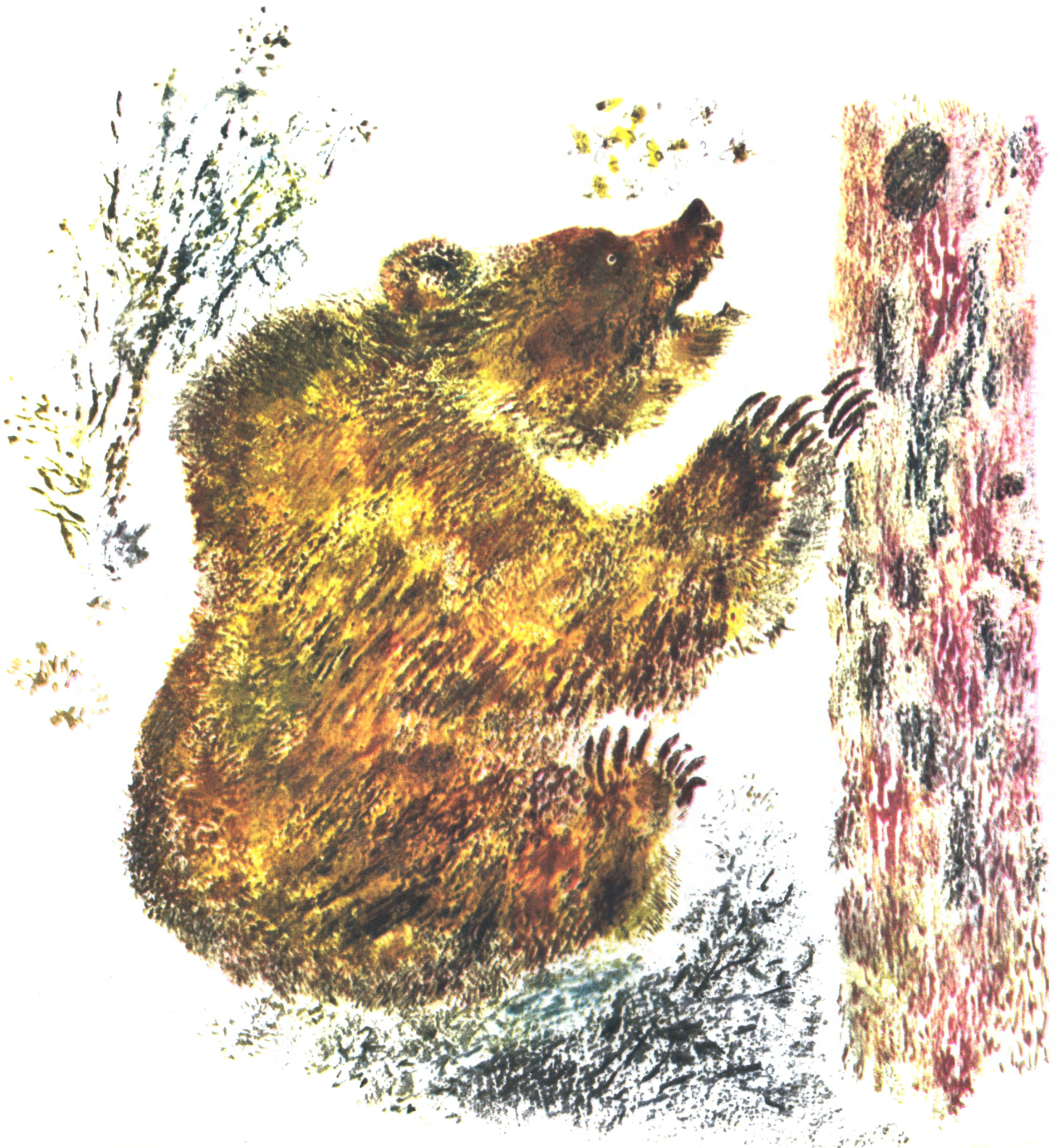
WALRUSES are also seals, only they are very large and have tusks. They live in the most remote parts of the Arctic and on the Chukotka.





The POLAR BEAR lives in the Arctic Ocean. It swims great distances. It can often be seen in the open sea. It hunts seals.

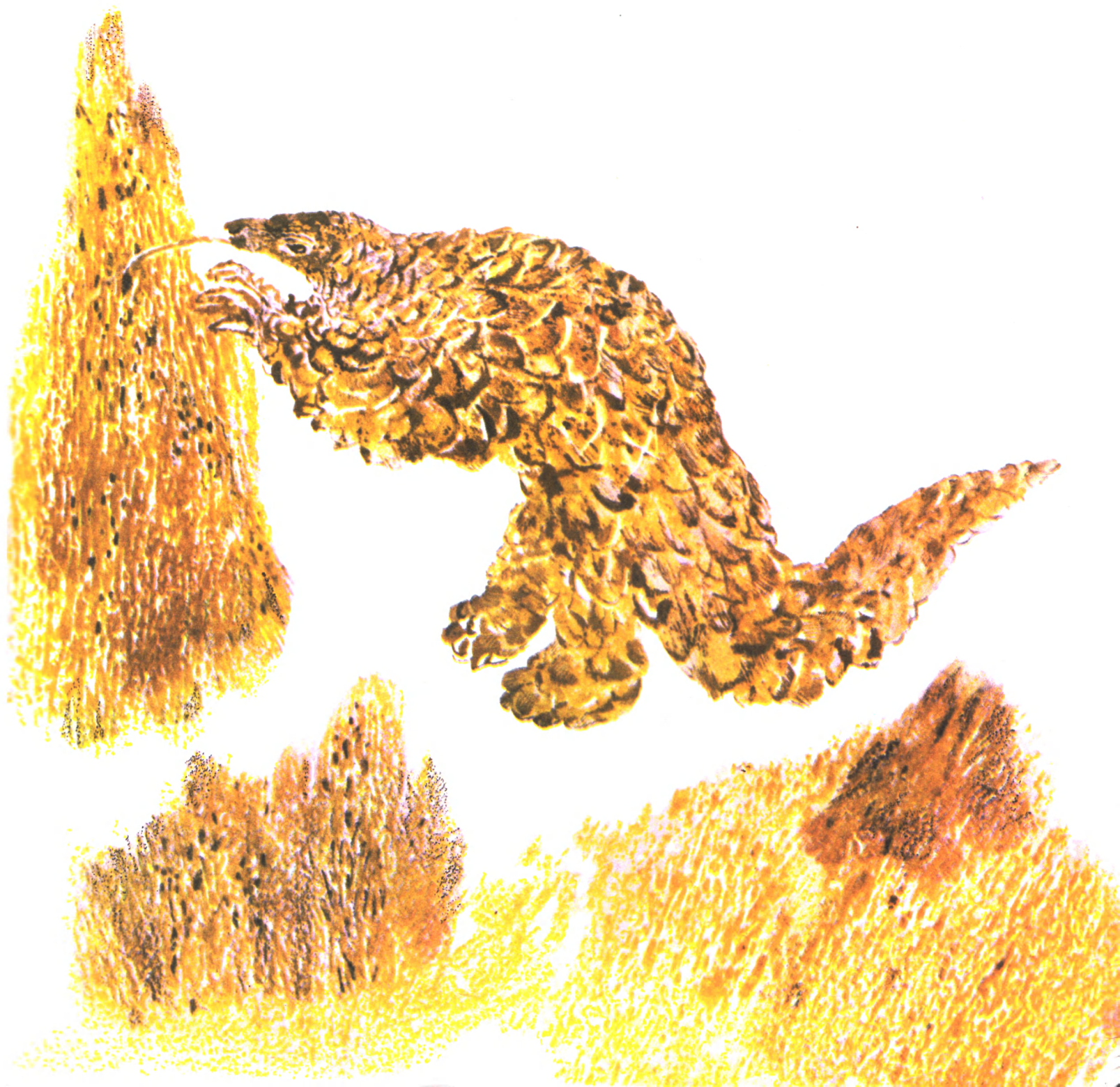
Its relative, the BROWN BEAR, lives in the woods. It loves eating everything and is not even afraid of bees. It destroys their hives.



Do you want to know which animal has the longest tongue? Look at this animal. It is an ANT-EATER. It lives in South America. Its tongue is one and a half feet long. Ants stick to the ant-eater's tongue and then it eats them.



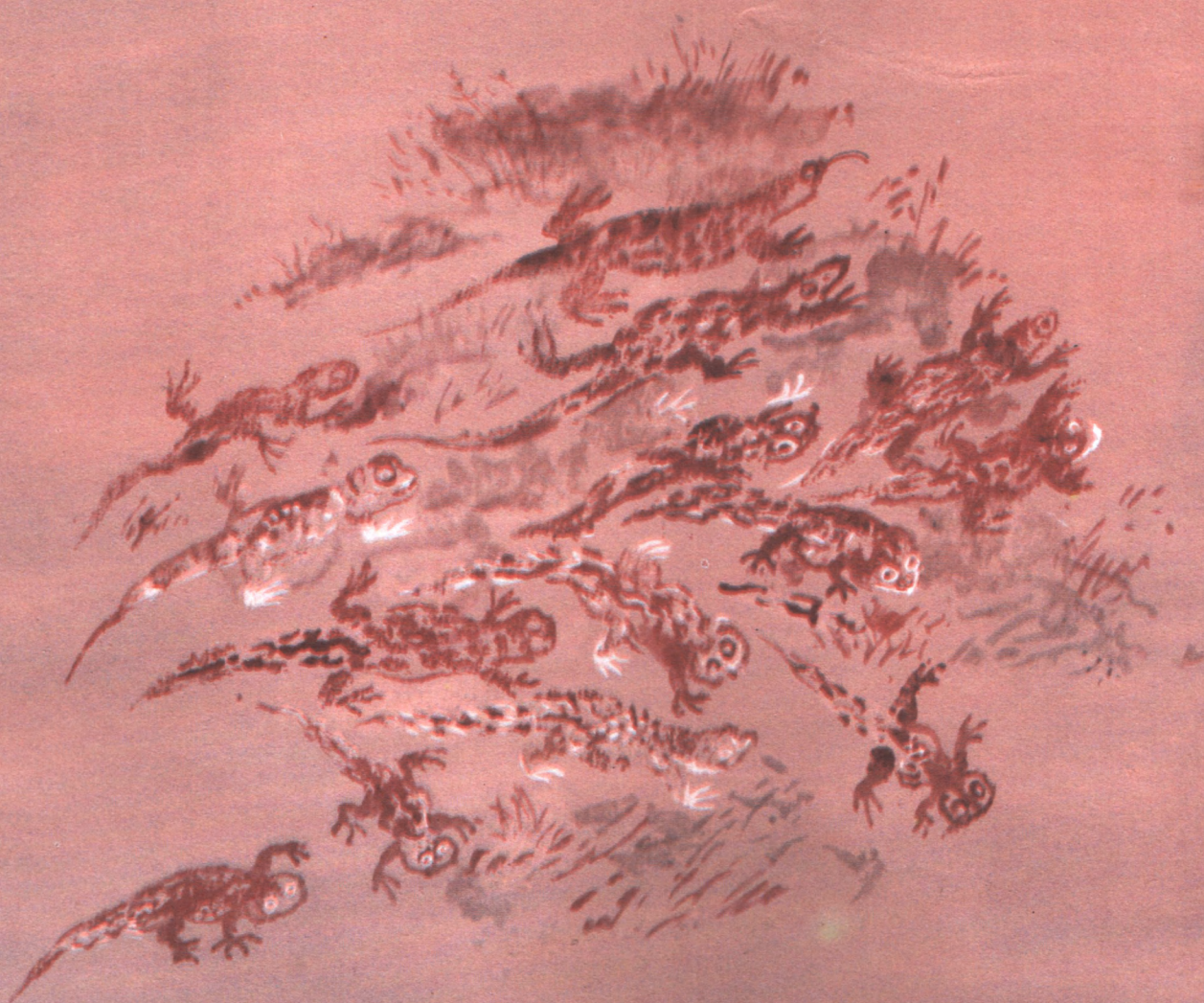
And this is a PANGOLIN. Its tongue is slightly shorter. It looks like a fir-cone: it is covered all over with horny scales. This armour protects it from predatory animals. The pangolin does not have any teeth in its mouth. Instead, it has some jagged spikes in its stomach.



This is a picture of a PYTHON. Pythons are the largest kind of snakes. They are sometimes thirty feet long. They are found in Africa and South Asia.

Pythons may attack large animals such as leopards and boars.





Drawings by N. CHARUSHIN



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Translated from the Russian by Jan Butler

И. Акимушкин, Н. Чарушин

РАЗНЫЕ ЗВЕРИ

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